563 sonal risk: when the Russians arrived, the Jew informed them that a person who had secreted a Jew from the Nazis might most likely secret a "bandit" from the Russians—and the poor farmer was executed and his family exiled.

000 This reasoning seems to be generally adopted by the Russians—and no "heroics" are told them. The Russians show no excitement whatever regarding the massacres perpetrated by the Nazis. They conducted no special investigation or excavations—the Nazi practices too closely parallel those of the Soviets. ..... Only in instances where they were tipped off that people had been executed clothed and unrobbed—did the Russians make excavations in quest for valuables. . . . They gathered up coins, jewelry, pulled gold from teeth, and ceremoniously reburied the skeletons.

Education

874 The University of Vilnius with medical and chemistry departments, and the University of Kaunas with
871 departments of medicine, architecture, construction, technology and chemistry, are functioning. Both universities provide compulsory instruction in "Marxism-Leninism Science" and military training. A Veterinarian Academy and the lower classes of the Agricultural Academy function at Kaunas. The Pedagoguic Institute and an Art Institute with classes in scultpure, architecture, graphics and painting are open in Vilnius. The Commercial Institute is at Klaipėda. The upper classes of the Agricultural Academy are still housed in the ruins of Dotnuva.

Eighty percent of the faculty staff and student body are Lithuanians. Deputy Rectors, in charge of "political education," are Russian MVD-men. Most of the aliens are concentrated in Vilnius. The total student body numbers about 6,000 (compared with over 2,000 university students in Western Germany).

Of secondary schools, there are about 90 gymnasia and 189 progymnasia with 65,000 students, and about 20 special schools of agriculture, orchardry, gardening, forestry, cattle breeding, bookkeeping, etc. The secondary schools follow an 8-year program—a recession to the antiquated pre-1914 system. The Russian language is taught from the third grade of grammar school. All textbooks are translations of Russian authors exclusively. Prewar textbooks are withdrawn from circulation and systematically destroyed.

186 In 1944 and 1945, the National Anthem of Lithuania was tolerated as a "national song" over the radio and at some official functions, but was banned from schools. It is still sung in some churches but is no longer heard elsewhere.

876 Since 1946, school programs were systematically
626 purged of all "western bourgeois" influence. In libraries, books of western authors were replaced by propaganda "masterpieces" of Russian literature. The Michurin theory is preached, and professors are compelled to publicly "confess" their former heresy. Every dissertation on any subject must faithfully seek some quotation from Stalin and Lenin "science" to prove the infallibility. Only students whose parents never owned more than 18 hectares of land are admitted to universities—others are "outlaws."

The universities demand that matriculating students submit loyalty certificates issued by local Party offices. The University of Kaunas still adheres to the

13a

000

Press Section, Baltic Area of the Lithuanian Liberation Army. An underground newspaper in the process of printing in a forest.

876 626 Lithuanian language, but in Vilnius classes are bilingual. Technological training is favored from the top, and students themselves elect such classes for practical reasons. The Marxist-Leninist "science" is obligatory. Nevertheless, of 2,000 students of the University of Kaunas, only 13 were members of the Komsomol in the school year 1947-48.

883 665 The Komsomol (Communist Youth organization) —just vegetates: there are few Lithuanian recruits. These are found in the cities only. The Komsomol had enjoyed some success during the early days of the second occupation as a "security measure." However, when the authorities began employing the Komsomol personnel for repression, espionage, grain collection supervision, etc., the ranks dwindled. The *Komsorgs* (Komsomol organizers) are pressuring students to join the Komsomol and school directors second the efforts, but there is practically no response: in schools of 500 pupils, only a dozen or so, mostly children of non-Lithuanian race, belong to the Komsomol.

Membership in the "Pioneers"—the parody of boy scouting—is not obligatory but school authorities warn the parents to enroll their children.

In Kindergartens, communist and anti-religious propaganda is forced on little children, and teachers slyly attempt to enlist the little ones as informers on their parents and friends.

Forcible Collectivization and Duplicity

423 Unbelievable official duplicity is practiced by the Kremlin. Thus, *Izvestiya*, the official organ of the Soviet Government, in the issue No. 172 of 22 July 1948 wrote:

"The Agrarian Reform has been consummated in Lithuania. 92,000 former smallholders and the landless have received gratuitously FOR ALL TIME 659,000 hectares of land, tens of thousands horses and cows, over 100,000 houses and other farm structures.

"Prior to the completion of harvesting, over 250 kolkhozes were found in the country."

The final phrase presaged the forcible drive against the "smallholders and the landless" from whom land was seized and redistributed in order to provide statistical data to show a great Soviet "achievement," prior to driving the expropriated "recipients of the land FOR ALL TIME" into the kolkhozes. And yet,

793 659 661 they discontinue holding Mass and stop the performance of other priestly duties. A number of priests were arrested and the NKVD attempted to enlist their services by threats and blackmail. Because of these methods, several priests consented—and, immediately after their release, fled abroad. Those refusing to become agents were imprisoned. Soon the number of prisoners grew as many friars, preachers and high school students heroically defended their faith.

626 527 461 The Russians initiated a campaign against religious *traditions*. They began by banning the traditional Corpus Christi processions in the streets. All Saints Day was declared to be a working day, and the authorities banned traditional services and mass visits to cemeteries on All Souls' Day. During Advent and Lent, the bolsheviks encouraged dancing, entertainment and anti-religious lectures. Good Friday and Holy Saturday, as well as the second day of Easter, were designated working days. Those failing to report for work on the second day of Easter were prosecuted. In general, at frequent intervals, ordinary Sundays were periodically declared to be working days, and Saturdays—days of rest.

876 626 [883] The teaching of religion in schools was replaced by classes on biology and the Stalin constitution. Biological lectures popularized "Darwinism." The "science of constitution" was to popularize a "Soviet democracy" and its oft-varying shifts directed by party line. In place of religious sodalities and athletic groups, the bolsheviks attempted to form *"Komsomol"* (Communist Youth) nests directed by political instructors called "Komsorg." Religious sermons were replaced by anti-religious tirades in the communist-controlled press and at mass meetings. Attendance at such mass-meetings to hear blasphemies was made compulsory.

626 661 558 Churches kept open and functioning. However, attendants at religious services were terrorized. The Party posted uniformed and non-uniformed spies at church doors to observe and list the churchgoers. Attendance in church was a sufficient reason for dismissal from higher offices.

000 The anti-religious drive, growing in tempo, began to expand. When Bishops Brizgys and Ramanauskas called on Pozdniakov, the former Soviet Minister to Lithuania and at present the Kremlin's deputy satrap, to ask for the return of the premises of the Theological Seminary, the Russian attempted to "reason" with them. Pozdniakov stated that they should have no illusions: what had been accomplished in Russia in 20 years, will be achieved in Lithuania within two to three years by experienced administrators. Why should the Seminary "delude" young men? By the time they became priests, there would be no duties to perform—in Russia the priests already have nothing to do. . . .

Lithuanian Resistance to the Anti-Religious Drive

798 771 The Lithuanians had suffered much for religion—murder, imprisonment and exile to Siberia—during

22a